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22 February 2005

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CN: 34168, AN: 10/676,492

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
POB 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

This notice is to request an amendment to the currently filed and pending Non-Provisional Patent Application #10/676,492 for the "Handle Extender," filed on 10 October 2003. The changes include rewritten claims in response to initial rejections, sent 3 December 2004, related updates to the specification, and one replacement drawing sheet.

In accordance with the procedures for filing amendments, there is NO NEW MATTER in the changes that I have submitted. The enclosed amendment sheet includes only the paragraphs from the original application that required change, with those changes annotated as required.

On a separate page, I have updated the claims. Because of the extensive edits made to the original claims, I chose to cancel the previously submitted claims (1-6) and enter new claims (7-16). Again, these new claims contain NO NEW MATTER, but are merely rewritten to better define how unique my invention is to any prior art.

Finally, I have replaced the last drawing from the original application, "Sheet 6/6," with a new drawing, "Replacement Sheet for Sheet 6/6." Again, this new drawing contains NO NEW MATTER, and actually replaces a drawing that did not adequately define the uniqueness of my invention to prior art.

In reference to the claim rejections in the 3 December 2004 correspondence from Mr. Williams, I would like to emphasize a few points that highlight the unique aspects of my invention from Hansen et al., U.S. Patent 5,722,118, which was noted in the correspondence:

- Regarding Correspondence Page 2, Bullet Number 2, the claims have been rewritten to more clearly define the unique construct and functionality of my invention.
- Regarding Correspondence Page 2, Bullet Number 3, the claims have been rewritten to de-emphasize how the strap attachment means are actually attached permanently to the invention itself, which I believe caused conflicts when reading against the Hansen patent and do not necessarily reflect the intent nor uniqueness of

the invention. Instead, the straps are affixed to the invention at "connection areas," which implies a permanent affixation using either a connection attachment, or imbedded configuration for use without an attachment. This is evident in the drawings and drawing descriptions in the specification as well.

- Regarding Correspondence Page 2, Bullet Number 4, the claims have been rewritten to more adequately and clearly define the exact design, configuration, and functionality of the invention. This invention is significantly different to Hansen in design (uni-planar and open-ended as opposed to triangular and enclosed, respectively), configuration (attached to distal support units in parallel plane to preexisting handle grip as opposed to attached solely to handle grip in a perpendicular plane to preexisting handle grip, respectively), and functionality (lateral/latitudinal clearance from wheeled object as opposed to longitudinal clearance from wheeled object, respectively).

I appreciate your consideration to these amendments and if you have any questions regarding this note or the enclosed supporting material, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Charles Joesten

Enclosed: Amendment to Specification, Amendment to Claims, Replacement Drawing Sheet, Original Drawing Sheet.